SHSS 3001: Understanding China 1700-2000: A Data Analytic Approach

Library Workshop: Research to Find Evidence

* July 3, 9:00-10:00am

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Welcome

Please

• Sit down
• Put away phone
• Login & open Chrome or Firefox
• Go to guide
• Go to Get out a pencil or pen
Library Workshop Goals

By the end of this workshop you will

• Be able to describe at least 1 research strategy (e.g. class syllabus as a starting point)

• Be able to use **the meta-data from books, articles, etc.** to search by “fields” in library search engine and databases

• Be able to dissect an information source by it’s meta-data & use those points for
  • Evaluation
  • Citation
Your SHSS 3001 LibGuide

http://libguides.ust.hk/shss3001
Question

How is Scholarly thought & writing different from “usual” thought and writing?
Scholarly thought and writing

- Looks for evidence
- Examines, evaluates, & analyses evidence
- Creates theories, arguments (theses) based on evidence
- Cites the evidence found (so other can examine & judge)
Different types of evidence for undergrads

Data, Information, Knowledge and Wisdom
(Robert Logan, What is information? 2010)

"There is often a lack of understanding of the difference between information and knowledge and the difference between explicit and tacit knowledge."

Data: (usually collected by others)

Information, knowledge & wisdom
(usually created by other scholars)
Books
Articles
Reports
Documentaries

https://ecolabsblog.files.wordpress.com/2010/11/data_info_knowledge_wisdom-scaled1UU.png
Activity 1: Strategies for seeking evidence

• List 2 strategies you use to find information when researching for evidence for university or school assignments?

I usually __________________________________________________________

The good thing about it is: ____________________

The thing that causes me difficulty is:__________________________
Sharing (5 min)

http://farm9.staticflickr.com/8384/8550541887_67f0fe2e9f_z.jpg cc (some rights reserved)
Knowing what you want... helps you decide where to search & find

Mongkok Market - Some rights reserved by soundingblue
http://www.flickr.com/photos/klam/297245989/sizes/z/in/photostream/
Strategies for planning Research

**Strategies**

These strategies are not "do it once in this order & be done". Instead, they are recommendations for approaches that are often done several times at different points in your research.

1. **Start with what you have been given**
   1. Ideas, information, data, themes, methods of analysis from lectures
   2. Ideas, information, data, themes, arguments, from readings

2. **Look for clues in your readings (syllabus)**
   1. Main argument, findings (in abstract? in conclusion?)
   2. Keywords, special terms?
   3. Important authors?
   4. References to other articles, books, statistics in assigned readings (for your follow-up) = Classic Scholarly Method

3. **Use References from things you research & find = The Classic Scholarly Method**
   1. When you do research, you will find things cited in papers & books you read. You can then look those up and read them.

4. **Think about the arguments & evidence from the readings and lectures and other info**
   1. See if/how they apply to your topic
   2. What questions do they give you? Start to search for answers or evidence that might lead you to your answer, your theory, your argument.

5. **Search for more answers or evidence (or questions!) in recommended in PowerSearch or other search tools**

6. **Use links in the "Details" part of the PowerSearch records to find useful related items**
2 Useful Search Techniques

1. Classic Method
   • Look at the citations in things you read. Search them, find them, read them.
   • Look at the references in those

2. Field searching
   • For something known (e.g. I know the author, title)
   • From something you hope to find (subject, keywords)

Both use knowledge of book & article anatomy (meta-data)
   • Author
   • Title
   • Title of source publication (if mag or journal)
   • Abstract or Table-of-contents (if exists)
   • Dates
   • Subject
Article Anatomy & Meta-data

http://libguides.ust.hk/shss3001/anatomy-research-article

Meta-data = data about data or information

Examples of metadata:
- Authors
- Title of article
- Publication name
- Publication date
Parts of a book or article = “Fields” to Search

Books, articles, etc.:
Author | Title | Subject | Publication date

Articles only (PrimoCentral & databases.)
Abstract | Source title | months...

Books & videos: (in Library Catalog)
Call number | Table of contents
Lecture 5.4 Cultural Reproduction and Education in Late Imperial and Contemporary China

• Readings:

Required:


Optional:


SMITH, Robert J. 1982. *The ecole normale supérieure and the Third Republic*. Suny Press Table 4, p.34.


Using PowerSearch to explore & dig the syllabus

• Authors
• Call numbers
• Subjects

Not just at HKUST! Any Library online system 😊
1. Click go
2. Article will open in new tab
3. Choose pdf (it will open in same tab) – keep tab open for activity
1. Choose: details
Graduates
2. Add in “any”:
China social class
Syllabus as Starting Point - From title to subject (2)

Swap:
“any”: Graduates
Subject: China social class
Syllabus as Starting Point - Authors (1)

1. Search author in catalog
Syllabus as Starting Point - Authors (2)

Expand where you’re searching
Library catalog (books, mostly) +
Primo Central (articles & chapter)

1. Choose Peer Reviewed articles
2. Open one in a new tab
3. Leave it open for dissection exercise
• Search on your own in Ebsco for 1 minute
• Find an article w/ pdf you like
• Open in a tab or download it to your desktop
• You will “dissect” it in a few minutes
What about data? (1)

http://libguides.ust.hk/shss3001/search-tools

Statistical databases

Example: China Data Online
What about data? (2)

Example:
Scroll down to “Census data
Choose 2005 data (1%)
What about data?
What about data?
What about data? (5)

5.2 Population by sex, education attainment and marital status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>education attainment</th>
<th>Age 15 and over</th>
<th>Never Married</th>
<th>First Married</th>
<th>Remarried</th>
<th>Divorced</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

How to cite?
China Data Online. Guangdong 2005 1% Population Survey Data Assembly – Table 5.2 Population by sex, education attainment and marital status. [n.d.]
Evaluate! What is suitable evidence for you to use?

Look at:

**Who:** Author, Publisher (listed on syllabus? Cited in articles or books? etc.)

**When:** Timeliness (still current or still valid? )

- **Example:** Ho Ping-ti’s book *Ladder of Success in Ancient China* – still important!

- **Example:** Want to discuss current issues of education & social mobility in China? - Post 2000 publication & data (or post 2010 ) important!

**What:** Supporting evidence? end of paper references, data, etc.

- Is it suitable for your purpose? (e.g. scholarly & reliable enough? Related to the question or theory you are exploring? Understandable at your current level of expertise)

**Be Choosy & Select carefully! It’s an art and you are beginning**

You are learning to be a **scholar!**
Activity 2 – Dissect two articles (results)

Why Dissect?
• Doctors need to know human bodies
• Other scholars need to know articles, books, & data
• Helps you Evaluate (choose) what to Use
• You will know what is important info for Citing Sources

Activity 6 – Dissect for evaluation 2 of your findings (4 min)

• Take two of your results from
• Dissect them

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Item 1 (PowerSearch)</th>
<th>Item 2 (Ebsco)</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>Title of article</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title of source</td>
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<tr>
<td>Page no. or URL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SHSS 3001 Guide can help with citing

http://libguides.ust.hk/shss3001/writing-citing
Round-up

• When Beginning to Research a new area, your syllabus & readings are your “old friends” to guide you on your journey

• Use the meta-data in the syllabus to search for “more stuff like this..”
  • Author Search
  • Title
  • Keywords

• Use the Metadata in the Library search tool records or things your find

• Details – leading to subject search

• Call number search & browse

• Other databases can also help you enter the research area
Questions & Feedback

Questions?

http://library.ust.hk/feedback